

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE NETWORK
Children, Family & Futures

HIGH DESERT PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS

MINUTES

February 9, 2004
Desert Mountain Educational Service Center
17800 Outer Highway 18
Apple Valley, CA

In Attendance:

Mary Jaquish	First 5 San Bernardino	mjaquish@cfc.sbcounty.gov	909-386-7706
Stacy Iverson	First 5 San Bernardino	siverson@cfdc.sbcounty.gov	909-386-7706
Cathy Smith	Alpha Connection		760-247-7930
Julian Weaver	SBCSS	julian_weaver@sbcss.k12.ca.us	909-386-2902
Brenda Keeling	VVCSC	yvcscc@charterinternet.com	760-243-9646
Rebecca Todd	Victorville DBH Clinic		760-955-2439
Vici Nagel	HDCC		760-949-2930
Linda Porras	Public Health	lporras@dph.sbcounty.gov	909-388-5701
Michele Girard	Public Health	mgirard@dph.sbcounty.gov	760-956-4414
Joan Rudder	Social Marketing Consultant	imaker@msn.com	760-956-8960
Desa Johnson-Waller	Moma Dee's Agape Home	desawaller@hotmail.com	760-947-7889
Judy Morris	Moses House Ministries	moseshouse@linkline.com	760-955-1895
Mia Hardin	Inspirational Visions	itsmia22@hotmail.com	760-947-3317
Martha Huff	CHDP	mhuff@dph.sbcounty.gov	909-387-3130
Anthony Chambers	HDYC	mrc@hdyc.org	760-245-7103
Lucille Hankton	VV Employment Resources	lhankton@jesd.sbcounty.gov	760-955-3827
Vicki Godden	Apple Valley Preschool	vicki_godden@avusd.org	760-247-2052
Chris Lindfelt	Oasis Counseling Centers	chrislindfelt@cs.com	760-245-9446
Alice Varela	We Care Support Center		760-245-2426
Claire Burrus	"A Better Way" D.V.		760-955-8010
Deborah Roberts	Growing Tree Services	vanille92376@aol.com	909-874-7050
Cristine De Lara	Human Services	cdelara@hss.sbcounty.gov	760-955-3505
Kerri Tracy	Hesperia USD	kerri.tracy@hesperia.k12.ca.us	760-244-4411
Madeline Rodriguez	Department of Children's Svcs.	mrodriguez@dcs.sbcounty.gov	760-243-6750
Marilea Reese	High Desert Homeless Svcs.	Hdhs_prog_dir@accex.net	760-245-5991
Robert Decker	Clear View Treatment Center		909-338-9849
Rita Downs	Behavioral Health	rdowns@dbh.sbcounty.gov	760-955-2439
Virginia Barron	SBCSS-State Preschool		760-244-6151
Michelle Gaona	Catholic Charities		760-242-2311
Tammy Williams	Children's Network	tttwilliams@hss.sbcounty.gov	909-387-8966
Susan Melanson	Children's Network	smelanson@hss.sbcounty.gov	909-387-5394

1. Welcome and Introductions

Self-Introductions were made.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the Agenda.

3. Approval of January Minutes

The minutes will stand as approved.

4. Guest Speaker: Linda Angona, First 5 San Bernardino Strategic Plan

Please see attachments.

Questions and Comments

- The current contracts end June 30, 2004.
- Mary will still be offering technical assistance to the CBO's (Community Based Organizations).
- The group was referred to several other handouts on the resource table.

Mary Jaquish of First 5 San Bernardino comments:

- The evaluation process is being fine tuned so it will be easier to determine the outcomes.
- The summary document of the Strategic Plan will be located in the Resource Center, on-line and hard copy soon.
- The First 5 funding will be allocated by region.
- A reminder that the First 5 funding is being reduced from approximately 24 million dollars to 20 million dollars, so it is very important not to base all of your funding only from First 5.
- The implementation of the strategic planning process is being developed now with input from the community teams throughout the county.

5. Guest Speaker: Susan Melanson, Children's Network Annual Report

Went over the Annual Report briefly mentioning the amount of data in the report will be very beneficial to those writing grants.

- There are 598,533 children under the age of 18 in San Bernardino County which is just under 33% of the total population, fewer of which are in poverty or jail.
- The number for suspected abuse and neglect indicates a new awareness, meaning the numbers will go up before they go down.
- The juvenile justice numbers are down statewide due to special programs that have been funded.

- There are probation officers in schools and three departments, including the District Attorney's office working on truancy issues.
- That \$5.9 million program is not slated for cuts, at this time, for next year.
- Violent crime is up 3.6%.
- The number of children who died rose from last year. The Child death review team talked about SIDs, sleeping in unsafe conditions, and not being in car seats properly.
- Susan suggested you contact her, should you have any questions on the annual report distributed at the meeting today (909) 387-8966.

6. Roundtable Discussion

Mary Jaquish of First 5 San Bernardino reported:

- After school programs under Prop 49 do not have sufficient funding. Since there are no funding libraries, labs and gyms are being closed. Maybe partnerships would help keep these facilities open and help with costs.
- Office of Juvenile Justice has funding opportunities.
- www.goldmine.cde.ca.gov for head start and after school programs.

Deborah Roberts of Growing Tree Services reported:

- They are starting a non-profit organization for Child Care Providers for children in family childcare setting 0-5.

Alice Varela of We Care Support Center reported:

- They are getting their program started to provide 24/7 immediate counseling help for traumatic incidences.

Nancy sitting in for Vicki Godden of Apple Valley Preschool Services reported:

- The center is a resource center for Apple Valley families and preschoolers 0-5.
- There are five preschools in Apple Valley and they currently have 130 on the waiting list.
- The resource center assists kids with language development and also helps the families that are on the waiting list by letting them check out materials for preparation to be in school.

Brenda Keeling of VVCSC reported:

- They are pleased to announce a dynamic youth coordinator Stormy Chambers is joining them and is in training in Sacramento right now.
- Join Hands Day is on May 1st, which is a project to fight teen obesity and encourage getting active together. They currently have 600 youth signed up and counting.

Joan Rudder of Social Marketing reported:

- She distributed a flyer outlining her program, which allows analysis of media for the community offered at no charge.

Anthony Chambers of High Desert Youth & Family Service Center reported:

- There will be a Valentines fundraiser with a New Orleans theme with seafood available from 6 p.m. to 1 am at the center. The price is \$20 a person.
- They also have a program with High Desert Academy Applied Arts and Science to engage young people who are not working well in school to be interested in learning.

Vici Nagel of High Desert Community Coalitions reported:

- There are flyers in the back on upcoming workshops for non-profits.

Marilea Reese of High Desert Homeless Services reported:

- They are having a fundraiser on March 20th for the Victorville Activity Center.
- The price is \$10 for adults and \$3 for children. Flyers will be available next month.

Judy Morris of Moses House Ministries reported:

- They work with pregnant teens and single moms to get housing and support services.
- The Crossing Program is growing to improve life skills.
- Their annual fundraising dinner is March 5th at no charge, but they do ask for a commitment at the dinner.
- They look at moneymaking opportunities and learn life skills for mothers at home.

Martha Huff of CAH/CHDP reported:

- Providers as of January 1, 2004 implemented the Gateway program for mandatory services.
- Majority of the Pediatric Providers are providing CHDP services.

Michele Gaona of Catholic Charities reported:

- They offer counseling services; work with the Adelanto food center and Apple Valley emergency assistance.
- They are doing housing in rural areas as well.
- They are taking applications for transportation and food needs now.

Cathy Smith of Alpha Connection reported:

- They are planning the Alpha Tots Program an education program for children 0-5.
- Since transportation is an issue, they are working on taking the classes to the families at their homes.

Robert Decker of Clear View Treatment Center reported:

- They have three homes in Apple Valley and Crestline that house programs for substance abuse.
- They offer education for drug abusing parents and teens.
- They have curriculum and instructors whom will do an hour or two-hour class for alcohol and drug abusers and have the availability to expand classes if needed.

Chris Lindfelt of Oasis Counseling Center reported:

- They are in the planning stages and are headed to the implementation stage for an after care and recovery program, which is family and children based for pregnant teens and moms.

Dee Johnson-Waller of Mama Dee's Agape Home reported:

- They are a prison-based ministry focused on women and babies.
- They are looking at starting a sobriety home.

Linda Porras of the Public Health Department reported:

- Their office serves females, males adults and teens on the issues of reproductive health, pregnancy testing, counseling, HIV testing.
- They have a grant to provide parenting education classes. The class will be a quick 2 ½ hours to teach parents to use tools for speaking to their children about sexuality.
- Please call (909) 388-5701 for more information on scheduled times.

Rita Downs of Behavioral Health reported:

- Update on Healthy Homes Project: it is a partnership with DCS (Department of Children's Services) where all children in the foster care system over 6 months receive mental health screening.
- The screening will determine if the children are in need of further treatment and will use community resources if the need be.
- The Department of Children's Services initiates the referrals.

• Julian Weaver of San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools reported:

- School Safety Summit will be held on April 16th in the high desert that will have a focus on drugs and gangs.
- Paul Callahan from Probation, Mike Martinez from the District Attorney's Office, Dr. Brian Leven from CSUSB are the keynote presenters and the afternoon will be for resources and networking.
- There is no charge, but capacity is 120.
- Julian will bring flyers to the next meeting.

Barbara Cook of San Bernardino Sexual Assault Services reported:

- They have consistently served the community for 32 years.
- They are the only rape crisis center in San Bernardino County.
- They will be having an event on March 15th in Riverside.
- Barbara will bring flyers to the next meeting on the event and the services they offer.

Carolyn Walton reported:

- She is in the process of forming a long-term foundation for the community on a ranch donated by her family.

Susan Melanson of Children's Network reported:

- Sue Taylor was at the meeting last month to present the nomination form for the Shine a Light on Child Abuse Prevention Awards Breakfast. Since then the deadline for nominations has been pushed back to Feb. 13th.
- Please RSVP with Children's Network to guarantee your seat at the breakfast.

Announcements

- April 17th is the Children's Fund Duck Race at Pharoah's Lost Kingdom. Please support them by adopting a duck. The theme this year is Indiana Jones and the Crusade for the Lost Child.
- Mary has brought a flyer with further funding opportunities
- Stacy mentioned on the First 5 San Bernardino web site are the guidelines for the new Community Initiatives that fund new innovative programs.

7. **Next Meeting Date: March 8, 2004 9:00 am**
Desert Mountain Educational Service Center
17800 Outer Highway 18, Apple Valley

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Williams, Children's Network
High Desert Partnership for Kids Recording Secretary

TGW/lmm